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WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1899-SIXTEEN PAGES.

No. 14,380.

TWO CENTS.

Aguinaldo Abandons His Former Headquarters.

NOW OCCUPIED BY OUR TROOPS

Rebel Chieftain Started Fires as He Retreated.

HIS FORCES TAKE TO THE HILLS

American Officers Expect Little Resistance in Future.

GENERAL HALE'S ADVANCE

The following cable message was received from Gen. Otis at 6 o'clock

"MANILA, March 31, 1899. "Adjutant General, Washington:

"Troops resting at Malolos; considerable portion of city destroyed by fire; our casualties one killed, fifteen wounded. Hall has returned with his troops to former position north of Manila. OTIS."

MANILA, March 31, 3:55 p.m.-The American flag was raised over Malolos at 10 o'clock this morning. The Kansas regiment and the Montana regiment, on entering the city, found it deserted, the presidencia burning and the rebels retreating toward the mountains in a state of terror. It is believed they cannot in future make even a faint resistance.

The American loss was small. Aguinaldo Left Wednesday.

It is evident that the rebels for some time ed all hope of holding their capital, for the Americans found there evidences of elaborate preparations for evacuation. On the railroad the rails and probably thrown into the river. The only prisoners captured were a few Chinamen. They said Aguinaldo left Maiolos on Wed-

The principal citizens of Malolos, their families and servants have been taken into the country, while others departed on foot, carrying their possessions and driving their cattle and other animals before them. Most evening to positions east of the railroad, leaving only some small bands in the strong trenches in front of the city.

Gen. MacArthur started for the rebel capital at 7 o'clock this morning with two rapid-fire guns flanking the track, two guns of the Utah Battery on the right and two guns of the 6th Artillery on the left of the "rapids," firing continuously.

The Kansas and Montana regiments moved upon Malolos and the Nebraska and Pennsylvania regiments and the 3d Artillery kept along the right of the railroad.

The only effective stand made by the reba mile from Malolos and on the right, where ed the greatest loss. Col. Funston, always at the front, was the first man in Malolos followed by a group of dashing Kansans. The Filipino flag, which was flying from the center of the town, was hauled down by triumphantly raised their own above it.

From the columns of smoke arising from the city it seemed as if the whole place was ablaze. It turned out, however, that only the presidencia, or government buildbeen set afire by the rebels before they

From the reports gathered by the American officers from prisoners and others it is believed that the rebel army is constantly and that although the enemy may make one or two more stands, the forces of Aguinaldo will degenerate in perhaps a month to a few hundred who may continue Lins.

Troops Behave Splendidly.

didly. They advanced steadily against suc cessive lines of trenches, through woods were handleapped in fighting by the fact that their Springfield rifles are of shorter range than the Mauser rifles in the hands of the rebels. Under those conditions, the steady advance of our troops is a really

But the most noteworthy feature of this tience and endurance of the private soldiers. They have never hesitated to plunge across any kind of difficult country against any number of the enemy and in the facof positions of entirely unknown strength. This afternoon the victorious American

army is feasting on cocoanuts and bananas.

and enjoying a well-earned rest, while the hospital train is carrying the wounded back

GEN. HALL'S ADVANCE.

Disperses the Rebels, Who Made a Stand in His Front. MANULA, March 31, 10:37 a.m.-Gen. Hall's brigade advanced today from Mariquina, up the Mateo river valley, almost to Montalban, driving the enemy to the hills on the north. The rebels were in considerable force at the junctions of the rivers Nanca and Ampit with the Mateo, but the American artillery soon scattered them with heavy loss. The American loss was one killed, Lieut. Gregg of the 4th Infantry. Gen. Hall eventually returned to the water works. Gen. King advanced from San Pedro Macati, establishing headquar-

ters at Pasig. Recently issued cories of the Republica Filipina, Aguinaldo's official ergan, contain a proclamation to the effect that certain parties are raiding the northern towns and ordering the same to join the Filipino army immediately or take the consequences when Aguinaldo shall have finished with the Americans.

This is construed as meaning that Macaholas, the governor of the five northern provinces, is unfriendly to Aguinaldo. If this be true, Aguinaldo's retreat is undoubtedly cut off at the railroad beyond San Fernando.

Sample of Filipino "News." The Republica Filipira on March 23 pubisked an extra edition containing a statement to the effect that the Americans had attacked Pasig; that many of them were killed and a majority of the remainder were wounded, while 180 of them were taken prisoners.

A second paragraph in the same edition asserted that the Americans had ravished 300 of the Filipinos' fairest daughters, and called upon the natives to "defend their honor with their lives against oppressors who spared neither age, sex nor condition, murdering whole families in cold-blooded

The American steamer Roanoke recently picked up a native boat containing a dozen Spanish prisoners who had escaped from Dagupan and had been nearly three days affost with neither food nor water.

They reported that the prisoners expected to be killed when the Americans advanced, but knew nothing of the fate of those in the southern towns.

MacARTHUR CAPTURES MALOLOS. Insurgents Set Fire to the Town as They Retreat.

MANILA, March 31, noon.-Maj. Gen. MacArthur entered Malolos, the seat of the so-called insurgent government, at 9:30 this morning, the rebels burning the city and simultaneously evacuating it.

They are now in full retreat toward the north, where Aguinaldo and the cabinet have been for two days. Maj. Gen. MacArthur advanced to attack

Malolos, the seat of the insurgent government, at 7 o'clock this morning. He was met with strong opposition, the

rebels resisting desperately, but losing General Hall's brigade is advancing north from the water works and driving the left wing of the enemy across.

The United States troops rested last night in the jungle, about a mile and a quarter from Malolos. The day's advance began at 2 o'clock, and covered a distance of about two and one-half miles beyond the Guiguinto river, along the railroad. The brunt of the battle was on the right of the track, where the enemy was apparently concen-

trated. The 1st Nebraska, 1st South Dakota and 10th Pennsylvania Regiments encountered them intrenched on the border of the woods and the Americans, advancing across the open, suffered a terrific fire for half an hour. Four men of the Nebraska Regi-ment were killed and thirty were wounded. of the Dakota regiment were and one of the Pennsylvanians The Americans finally drove the Filipinos

back. Although there were three lines of strong intrechments along the track, the enemy made scarcely any defense there. Gen. MacArthur Under Fire.

General MacArthur and his staff were walking on the track abreast of the line. with everything quiet, when suddenly they received a shower of bullets from sharp-

shooters in trees and on house tops, but these were speedily dislodged. The enemy's loss was apparently small, the jungle affording them such protection that the Americans were unable to se them, and in firing were guided only by the sound of the Filipino shots. The American

beautiful sight, with the 20th Kansas Regiment on the left of Guiguinto station and the Pennsylvania regiment on the right, beyond the river.

artillery was handicapped for the same rea

The provision train was delayed by broken The hospital work is remarkably efficient

The telegraphers keep abreast of the line and maintain a constant connection

Want a Star for Funston. WICHITA, Kan., March 31.-Col. Fred Funston's friends here will at once urge that the hero of Malolos be made a briga-

MADE SLIGHT RESISTANCE.

Filipinos Retired From Malolos on Approach of the Americans. The War Department at 1:30 o'clock this norning made public the following dispatch

"MANILA, March 31. 'Adjutant General, Washington: "McArthur captured Malolos at 10:15 this morning. Enemy retired after slight re-

sistance and firing city. Particulars later. Hall had quite severe engagement beyond Mariquina. Casualties, twenty. Enemy driven. OTIS." The following dispatch from Gen. Otis

vas received at the War Department last right:

'Adjutant General, Washington: "MacArthur made dispositions yesterday for attack on Malolos today. Engagement opened at 7 o'clock this morning and is now rogressing. Casualties yesterday, four illed and twenty-three wounded; all brought to Manila last night. Hall moved out from camping station at daylight this morning with three battalions, northeast. Attacked and has taken Mariquina and is OTIS."

OUR TROOPS MAY NOW REST.

Talk of Engaging Natives to Chase the Filipinos.

It is said at the War Department that Gen. Otis will not make a campaign during the rainy season, nor is it believed that he will at present chase the Filipinos into the mountain fastnesses of Luzon. It is believed that the fight that was in Aguinaldo has been whipped out of him, and it is be-(Continued on Second Page.)

Representative D H. Mercer of Nebraska has just returned to Washington from that state. He says the election there this fall,

although only a supreme court judge and two regents of the university are to be balloted for, will be a contest of unusual significance. On the judgeship the fight will assume strictly party lines, and coming as it will just a year before the presidentia' election, in a state which gave Bryan a plurality of 13,576 in 1896, will be watched by the nation. The democrats will probably nominate William V. Allen, whose term in the Senate expired the 3d of this month. The only other candidate mentioned is ex-Gov. Holcomb. Either would bring out a full vote and so afford a good test of Bryanite strength in the state.

Effect of a Decisive Republican Vic-

tory in Nebraska.

CONTEST OF UNUSUAL SIGNIFICANCE

Year 1900.

As between them, the understanding is that Holcomb, who lives in the district which has been represented in Congress by William L. Greene, who died a few weeks ago, may be nominated to fill this congressional vacancy, in which case Allen will have no rival for the nomination for supreme court judge. The republicans have not decided upon their man yet, but will try to pick out somebody equally represen-tative of their party in the state.

Would Forecast Result in 1900. Between two such candidates at the polls the result would almost certainly forecast that of a year hence, provided the two parties continue on the same platforms, respectively. In 1896 Bryan received 52 per cent of the vote of the state and McKinley 46 per cent. In 1898 Poynter, fusionist, received 50 per cent in a gubernatorial con-test, and Haywood, the republican nomi-nee, nearly 49 per cent. On the rest of

the ticket, congressional and legislative, the republicans were more successful.

They carried the first district by 2,500 votes, the second by 928, and lost the remaining four districts by majorities aggregating 4,800, thus leaving the fusionists with a majority on a congressional ticket with a majority on a congressional ticket in the state of about 1.500. The republicans, however, carried the state legislature by a majority of thirteen on joint ballot, and have elected a republican United States

Effect of Republican Success.

The state is thus in that peculiar condition of closeness where the outcome of next fall's balloting will be very interesting. If the republicans carry the state by a substantial majority, it ought to put an end to William J. Bryan as a democratic nominee. It would seem to prove that he could not carry his own state. But if the republicans carry it by a trifling majority, it will be argued that Bryan's candidacy is just what is needed to save the day.

Everything points to a warm fight. Alle and Holcomb make any contest into which they enter picturesque. The republicans will not be outdone in the selection of talent for stumping the state, and it would not be strange if the most significant elec-tion held anywhere in the Union November tion held anywhere in the Union November next would be that of Nebraska. That state has recently come into considerable political prominence. The best joke of the Indianapolis convention, which nominated Palmer and Buckner, was on Nebraska. When the role of states was being called for the presentation of candidates, the chairman of the Nebraska delegation arose, when his turn came, and said: "Nebraska when his turn came, and said: "Nebraska feels that she already has one candidate too many for the presidency." The coming election in that state will do a good deal in determining whether she will continue to have that extra candidate.

TAKEN TO HIS FORMER HOME.

Remains of Gen. Flagler Brought to

The remains of Gen. Daniel W. Flagler, ate chief of ordnance, who died at Fort Monroe last Wednesday, arrived here this morning about 7 o'clock on the Norfolk steamer. They were accompanied by Mrs. Flagler, her son, Capt. C. S. Flagler; her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Flagier, and by Col. Benjamin Flag'er, a brother of the deceased, formerly attached to the volunteer army. The party was met at the wharf by Maj. Charles Shaler and Capt. J. C. Ayres of the ordnance department, who superintended the transfer of the remains and the members of the funeral party to he late residence of the deceased, on Calfornia avenue.

Funeral services will be held at the res-dence of the family Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and the interment will be made in Arlington cemetery. The arrangements for the funeral are not yet completed, but it has been decided that full military honors shall be paid to the decased soldier to the limited extent that is possible in view of the small number of troops in this vicinity available for service on that occasion. It is possible that the military escort will be limited to a firing party, composed of artillery troops at the Washington berof artillery troops at the Washington barracks, marching as infantry.

MRS. SEMPLE'S PENSION.

the Late President Tyler. Among the pensions signed by Commissioner Evans yesterday was one for \$30 a month to Mrs. Letitia Tyler Semple of this city. Mrs. Semple is the daughter of President Tyler, and upon the death of her mother in 1842 undertook the duties of the lady of the White House. She is the widow of James A. Semple, and is pensioned for the Mexican war service of her husband. Mrs. Semple up to the present time has been drawing a pension of \$8 a month as a Mexican war widow, but at the last session of Congress it was increased by special act to \$30. She is living at the special act to \$30. She Louise Home in this city.

In granting this pension Congress follow-ed the precedent established in the case of Mrs. Dandridge, a daughter of President Zachary Taylor, whose first husband, Colonel Bliss, was an officer in the United States nei Buss, was an omeer in the United States army. Mrs. Semple represents four Presi-dents in point of relationship, namely: James Monroe, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler and Benjamin Harrison, all of whom were cousins through the Armistas and Tylers of Virginia. A peculiar feature of the case is that Mrs. Semple's husband was a paymaster in the navy when the civil war broke out, and resigned to enter the confederate service, where he received on as paymaster on the 10th of

Personal Mention. Dr. John F. Moran has returned to the

Mr. John W. Campbell, chief of police of entertained by Maj. Sylvester, chief of police of this city, went to Baltimore today.
Sergeant McNeeley, who had been so ill with diphtheria for several weeks that for some days his life was despaired of, has recovered and will return to duty this even-

The Evening Star.

Impression the Testimony Before the Court of Inquiry is Making.

What People Are Saying of Official Hostilly Toward Gen.

Would Forecast the Result in the It is evident from what is said by some of the prominent republicane visiting Washington that the testimony on the beef question before the army court of inquiry is making a deep impression on the people all over the country. It is being strongly A WARM FIGHT AHEAD urged by some that the administration should assume an attitude in the matter which would make it clear to the public that there is no disposition to shield any one responsible for the abuses the testimony seems to disclose.

Some strong friends of the administration who would not publicly criticise the administration in any of its branches speak very frankly in private urging that the results may be very serious if the responsibility is not fixed where it belongs and the fault properly punished. A prominent republican who has been among the people a good deal since Congress adjourned, said today that it was important that the administration speedily make it clear to the public that it was not intended to attack and attempt to discredit Gen. Miles for the purpose of shielding parties reattack and attempt to discredit Gen. Miles for the purpose of shielding parties responsible for the bad condition of the army supplies, which he brought to public attention. He said that he found public sentiment very generally applauding Gen. Miles for his course and disposed to resent anything that looked to them like a purpose to discredit Miles.

Seriousness of the Situation.

"I am afraid," he said, "that there is not a proper realization at Washington of the seriousness of the situation and what a mistake is being made by allowing the impression to get abroad that Gen. Miles is the object of official attack. No one can tell how far reaching the political effect may be, nor how injurious to the adminis-tration. The administration cannot afford to be put in the attitude of being an apolo-gist for what the people look upon as a crime against our soldiers in the field during the Spanish war. The testimony that has been taken is very generally regarded as convincing evidence that had, if not poisonous, meat was issued to the soldiers as their principal ration, and Gen. Miles is looked upon as the defender and champion of the soldiers. Official hostility toward Gen. Miles is very apt to be regarded by the public as a manifestation of resent-ment toward him for his exposing the beef scandal. The order of the Secretary of War depriving the general commanding the army of the right to order inspections was army of the right to order inspections was peculiarly untimely. It was by reason of his authority to order inspections that the information as to the character of the beef was collected by Gen. Miles. If he had not had that authority the evidence might never have been secured. To take the authority from him now seems to indicate a disapproval of the result of his exercise of it in the past."

THE COPRA INDUSTRY. General Osborne's Report

Upon It in Samoa. Consul General Osborne, at Apia, has nade a report to the State Department dated February 4, in regard to the copra

ndustry in Samoa, in which he says: "During the last quarter of 1898 no invoices were issued at this consulate. Prior to that time invoices were issued each month, principally for copra, which was sent by a German firm to San Francisco. The invoices for the first quarter of 1898 were \$11,276; for the second quarter, \$13,-854.86; for the third quarter, \$17,538.70; and for the fourth quarter, nothing. Upon inquiry I find that the contract of the German firm with the San Francisco merchant has terminated, and that a fair price for the commodity cannot be obtained in the United States. I am informed that only a trifle more than the cost of the copra at this place can be obtained at San Franthis place can be obtained at San Fran-cisco. During the last year Lever Brothers of Sydney had an agent here, and compet-tion was sharp. By the last steamer, the agent was notified that he was no longer needed, and that they had constituted the German firm their sole agents. This indi-cates that the entire product of the islands will from this time for the recognities or will from this time go to the colonies or to Europe. The loss of the sale in the United States means a corresponding loss of trade. Rates between San Francisco and Samoa have been such that most American commodities consumed here are sent to Sydney, and thence 2,800 miles to Apia, and delivered here much cheaper than they could be obtained direct from San Francisco. The tariff direct from San Francisco \$ \$16 per marine ton, and from Vancouver to Sydney, \$6 per ton. Possibly some arrangement could be made by which goods could be sent to Vancouver and thence to Figi, and then here by the interisland boats, which to some extent would relieve this place from the excessive rates from San Francisco.'

NEW ORDNANCE CHIEF.

Mentioned as Successor of

Gen. Flagler, It is officially stated at the War Department that the question of Gen. Flagler's successor as chief of ordnance will not be considered in any phase until after the burial of that officer next Monday. The impropriety of any other course of action under the circumstances is manifest. Nevertheless, there is general speculation in military circles as to the next chief of the ordnance department. Two names most prominently mentioned in connection with the vacancy are Col. James M. Whittemore, now in command of Frankfort arsenal, Pennsylvania, and Col. A. R. Buffington, stationed at Dover, N. J. These are the ranking officers of the ordnance de partment, and in ease the President con-cludes to be governed by seniority Col. Whittemore will be selected. Col. Whitte-more is a native of Massachusetts, and re-tires for age in a few months. Col. Buf-firgton is a Virginian and has two years more to serve on the active list. Two other fington is a Virginian, and has two years more to serve on the active list. Two other colonels who are eligible for appointment as chief of ordnance are Col. Alfred Mordecai and Col. Joseph F. Farley, both of whom were appointed to the Military Academy from the District of Columbia, Col. Farley having been born here. There is some talk of the selection of Maj. Charles Shaler, who has had entire harge of the office of chief of ordnance ever since Gen. Flagler became incapacitated early last fall.

MR. SHERMAN CONVALESCING.

Ex-Secretary Sherman passed a comfort

STEAMER PARIS AT MASSAU.

able night and today the following bulletin Both German and English Papers Diswas issued by the physicians: posed to Be Conservative. "Mr. Sherman has entirely recovered from his pneumonia, is convalescing and gaining strength slowly." LONDON, March 31.-The Berlin corespondent of the Times says:

Next Stop of Pleasure Party Will Be at Old Point. NASSAU, New Providence, March 31. The American line steamer Paris, Capt. Watkins, has arrived here with all her party of tourists in good health. The next stopping place will be Old Point Comfort.

WOULD SHELVE BRYAN THE BEEF QUESTION NOTHING FROM KAUTZ

A Dispatch Via Sydney is Expected Any Moment.

TO SETTLE SAMOAN TROUBLES

Appointment of a Joint Commission Seems Likely.

COMING OF DR. SOLF

No further word has been received at the Navy Department this morning from Rear Admiral Kautz regarding the Samoan situation, and the impression is gaining ground among the officials here that there is a missing cable report from Sydney which, upon its arrival, will clear up the mystery regarding the brief dispatch dated Auckland which was received yesterday. In reading the brief cable of yesterday, in which Rear Admiral Kautz referred to the improvement of the situation since his telegram "of the 18th, via Sydney, New South Wales," it was at first supposed that the date given, the 18th, was a mistake, as the only Sydney telegram received here was dated the 16th. That telegram probably left Samoa several days before the meeting of the consuls aboard the Philadelphia, and certainly a week before the actual fighting began, which, according to the press dis-patches, commenced on the 15th. It is con-sidered almost inconceivable that Rear Ad-miral Kautz made no attempt at communi-

miral Kautz made no attempt at communication with the department between the time of the sending of the telegram dated Sydney, the 16th, and the one received yesterday from Auckland, the 29th, which probably left Apia on the 23d.

It is now considered to be almost certain that the admiral's reference to the telegram of the 18th, via Sydney, referred to a telegram forwarded from Apia on the 18th. If this proves to be the case the telegram of the 18th, which has not yet been received, doubtless contained the details of the decision of the consuls aboard the Philadelphia, the subsequent ultimatum to Mataafa and his followers and the account of the three days' bombardment before the dispatch was sent. In the light of the existence of such a dis-

patch, the brief cable of yesterday can be intelligently read. It would then simply mean that the situation had improved durmean that the situation had improved during the interim between the 18th and the
23d, all the preliminary facts presumably
being already in the hands of the department here. The distance from Apia to Sydney is greater than that from Apia to Auckland. According to information in the
hands of the bureau of navigation the time
taken by stammers in plying hetween the taken by steamers in plying between the two former points is thirteen days, while steamers make the distance from Apia to Auckland in ten days.

Message Expected Today.

According to the regular sailing time of steamers between Apia and Sydney (thirteen days) if Rear Admiral Kautz had forwarded a telegram on the 18th, via Sydney, the dispatch would not have arrived at Sydney until today, at the earliest, so that with this explanation the non-arrival of ney is satisfactorily accounted for. If the steamer is on time and the new explana-tion of the department proves to be correct, this dispatch should arrive today or ertainly within a very few days if, possible, the steamer bearing it may have

encountered rough weather on her voyage

The British embassy here has received advices from Samoa in the shape of a dispatch to the British foreign office from its representative there. It is under date of March 20, and is a brief report on the collision between the two native factions there, and the bombardment by the British and American vessels. The dispatch does not go into details, but is confirmatory of he press advices already received. It say: that the rebel faction advanced into the own and began occupation, and it was then determined by the commanders of the British and American vessels to bombard the villages occupied. It announces that four British sailors were killed. This dispatch was cabled to Ambassador Paunce

A modus vivendi for the settlement of the Samoan troubles has been proposed, and is now under favorable consideration by the three governments concerned. It contemplates the creation of a joint high commis sion, consisting of one member from each authority and resulting disorder. The prop osition, it is understood, was put forwar by Germany, and is the second one sub mitted for a settlement of the entire

States and Great Britain join with Germany in removing all the officials now serv ng in Samoa through whom the troubles and arisen. To this the United States and Great Britain replied that as their rest the officials were not regarded as their respective officials were not regarded as having acted in the wrong, it could not be conceeded that they should be withdrawn, and thus discredited. Now the new proposition is presented to leave the whole question to high commissioners, one from each govern ment, the high commission to ha authority of the present officials in Samos so far as the recent difficulty was concerned, and leave the settlement to an entirely new body, free from prejudice with such a standing as to give added weight to its findings.

Only a Temporary Arrangement.

It would be temporary in character, not suspending or varying the Berlin treaty except for this special purpose, and for that reason would come under the general designation of a modus vivendi. The treaty itself contemplates this special arrangement, as it provides in section 1, article s, that "any special amendment may be adopted by the consent of the three powers with the adherence of Samoa

Up to the present time no final accept-ance has been given either by the United States or Great Britain, but in view of the troubles reported within the last few days all parties seem much inclined to accept this as affording at least some prospect of a solution. This is borne out by today's cable advices from Berlin referring to the favorable acceptance of the last proposi-tion. The cable gives no hint of the specific proposition, but it is on the lines above Dr. Solf Coming

Dr. Solf, the new head of the municipality of Samoa, is expected to arrive at the German embassy today or tomorrow, and the German ambassador will present him to the officials here.

COMMENT ON SAMOAN INCIDENT.

"Pending further information from Samoa the German press refrains from comment calculated to embitter the contro versy or to imperil the pending regotiation The events that have occurrred are deplored, mainly because they may influence public opinion adversely to the govern ment's policy of cultivating England's

friendship.
"It is feared they may give occasion

a suspicious and mistrustful section of the public to reproach the government with the first fruits of its approchement with England and the United States. On the other hand, no inclination exists to form a premature judgment on the action of Admiral Kautz and the British and American officials."

The Times in its leading editorial this morphing eaver.

morning says:

"All three governments concerned deserve credit for the sensible and conciliatory temper displayed over the events in Samoa, "Obviously no solution is acceptable under present conditions, save the maintenance of the Berlin act, but Great Britain is ready to construct the sensible to the is ready to concert with the other powers any measures for improving the local situa-tion, such, for instance, as disarming the natives and forbidding the importation of arms."

Assurances From Mr. White.

BERLIN, March 31.-The United State ambassador, Mr. Andrew D. White, visited the foreign office this morning and informed the officials there that the latest pro posals of Germany regarding Samoa had been favorably received at Washington. The attitude of the press is fair and moderate, though some of the newspapers are attacking the authorities bitterly, claiming that they are making too many concession to the United States and Great Britain.

CONTESTED ELECTION CASES.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives Receives Testimony. The clerk of the House of Representa tives is beginning to receive installments of the testimony in contested election cases which will come up for consideration at the next session of Congress. Thus far the

most of the testimony has been from the

contestants. Probably the most prominent cases will be those of Dockery against Bellamy, in the sixth North Carolina district, and Walker against Rhea, in the ninth Vir-ginia district. In the elections in both hese districts incidents subsequent thereto have been attended with bloodshed. The sixth North Carolina district, it will be remembered, was the scene of the tragic affair at Wilmington, where many negroes were killed in rioting several days after the election, the result of bad blood engendered in the campaign. The contest of Mr. Dockery will not take cognizance of that incident, it is said, but will be based mainly upon charges of intimidation and fraud at the polls. He has had no difficulty in securing evidence of some very queer transactions at the polls upon election day.

In the Virginia case the shooting of two

men, one of them the contestant, Gen. Walker, is still fresh in the minds of readers of The Star, and the taking of testi-mony was temporarily suspended by that occurrence, but will be continued. Evidence has been filed from other dis-tricts, as follows: Fourth Alabama, Ald-rich against Robbins; eighth Kentucky, Davidson against Gilbert; eleventh district Davidson against Gilbert; eleventh district White against Boering; ninth North Caro-lina, Pearson against Crawford; second Virginia, Wise against Young.

MAY BE FROM LIEUT. ROSS. The Mysterious Cable Dispatch Re-

ceived at the War Department. District Commissioner John W. Ross has become convinced that the mysterious cablegram received at the War Department, which was mentioned in yesterday's Star, from Manila, was intended for him. Mr. Ross has a son in the regular army, Lieut. Tenney Ross of the 3d Infantry. This regiment left New York several weeks ago on the transport Sherman, arriving at Manila about a week ago. A few days later the command was sent to the front. Before Lieut. Ross left for the Philippines he arranged with his father to cable him from Manila substantially as the cablegram received yesterday reads: "Name, Washington. Health, spirits fine." Mr. Ross, however, believes that in the transmission of the message from line to line on its way here the word "Name" was substituted at some point, inadvertently, of course, for "Ross."

Deeply impressed with the idea that the cablegram was intended for him, and so originally addressed, Mr. Ross today addressed a letter to Manager Marean of the Western Union Telegraph Company here, asking him to investigate the matter. Mr. Ross explained to Manager Marean that he has an arrangement with his son to cable him substantially as the mysterious message received yesterday reads, and he has no doubt that upon investigating the matter it will be discovered that it was sent to him by his son.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT CHANGES. Promotions, Transfers, Appointment

The following official changes have been made in the Department of the Interior: Office of the Secertary-Transfer from Treasury Department, John H. Francis of

New York, watchman, \$720. Office of the assistant attorney general-Reinstatement, Elden J. Hartshorn of Iowa ssistant attorney, \$2,000. Pension office-Reinstatements, David A

Lane of North Carolina and Mrs. Anna M Coleman of the District of Columbia, \$900. Promotions, Abel Bennett of New York, clerk, \$1,200, to \$1,400; Howard B. Hodge of the District of Columbia and Barrett P. Patterson of Maryland, messengers, \$840, to copyists, \$900; Arthur R. Smith and Robert Brott of the District of Columbia, as sistant messengers, \$720, to copyists, \$900 Orville L. Ganbin of the District of Columbia, watchman, \$720, to copyist, \$900; John R. Jacobs of the District of Columbia, messenger boy, \$400, to copyist, \$200; H. Morris Husband of Penrsylvania and Louis Louis Husband of Penrsylvania and Louis Lowe of the District of Columbia, assistant messengers, \$720, to messengers, \$840; J. Her-schel Cooper of the District of Columbia, William L. Bowie of North Carolina, Henry D. Green, jr., of Alabama and Charles Duke of Arkansas, messenger boys, \$400, to assistant messengers, \$720; William A. Robinson of Michigan, messenger boy, \$400, to watchman, \$720. Resignation, Jacob B. eazle of Mississippi, messenger boy, \$400 Office of education—Promotion and transfer! Charles G. Porterfield of Ohio, from classified laborer, \$480, in office of education, to copyist, \$900, office of Indian af-

General land office-Reinstatements, Horace J. Gray of the District of Columbia clerk, \$1,000; J. Scott Harrison of Kansas clerk, \$900. Appointments, based on competitive examination by civil service com-mission, Edward L. Faison, jr., of North Carolina, Henry B. P. Hollyday of Mary-land, David W. Kinnaird of Oregon, Will-iam J. Lightfoot of Colorado, John D. Mc-Leod of Montana and Nelson B. Sweitzer of Texas, examiners of surveys, \$5 per diem.

Patent office-Appointment, Robert Potwin of Nebraska, messenger boy, \$560.
Geological survey — Appointment, Mrs.
Mary M. Raborg of California, clerk, \$900.
Office of Indian affairs—Appointment,
Charles F. Hauke of Washington, clerk,

Telegraph Lines to the Yukon. Consul Brush informs the State Department that the Canadian government has decided to construct a telegraph line between Lake Bennett and Dawson City at once, and that it is also decided to establish telegraphic connection between British Columbia and the Yukon territory. He says the dominion authorities regard the franchise for this telegraph line as too important from the standpoint of the national portant from the standpoint of the national safety to permit it to go outside of govern-ment control. A statement is given of the daily temperature at Dawson during the month of January, showing a variation of from 2 degrees above on January 21 to 45 degrees below zero on January 25.

The sole measure of value to an advertiser is the number of readers and probable customers his announcement will reach. Judged by this inflexible standard, The Evening Star stands pre-eminent. No other paper, published anywhere, has so large a percentage of its circulation among the homes, families and business circles of the city where printed. In no other Washington paper, therefore, is an advertisement worth half so much to an advertiser.

English Pleasure Boat

Strikes Casquet Rocks.

NEAR THE ISLAND OF ALDERNEY

The Boilers Explode as the Steamer Settles.

SURVIVORS TOOK TO THE BOATS

They Were Picked Up by Passing

Coast Steamers.

CAPTAIN AMONG MISSING

SOUTHAMPTON, March 31.-The passenger steamer Stella, plying between this port and the Channel Islands, crashed upon the dreaded Casquet rocks near the Island of Alderney, yesterday afternoon in a dense fog and foundered in ten minutes, her boilers exploding with a tremendous report as she went down.

The Stella, which belongs to the London and Southwestern Railway Company, left Southampton at noor yesterday, conveying the first daylight excursion of the season to the Channel Islands. There were about 185 passengers on board, and the crew numbered thirty-five men. The weather was foggy, but all went well until the afternoon. when the fog became most dense.

At 4 o'clock the Casquet rocks suddenly oomed up through the fog bank, and the steamer almost immediately afterward struck amidships. The captain, seeing that the Stella was fast sinking, ordered the lifeboats to be launched. His instructions were carried out with the utmost celerity. and the women and children were embarked in the boats. Then the captain ordered the men to look after themselves.

Estimates of the Lost.

According to the latest estimates of the Railway Company, not more than seventy persons were drowned out of the 220 on board the Stella when she struck on the rocks. Other reports, however, place the number of drowned much higher,

The second officer of the steamer, who was among the saved, says that a collapsible boat was launched full of people, but he thinks she struck on the rocks, owing to the fog. Another steamer has picked up a boat containing fifty-five persons, including

twenty women, who escaped from the wrecked steamer. They have been landed here. The coasting steamer Lynx, which brought the news of the disaster here, picked up four boats and forty persons belong-

ing to the Stella. A survivor states that he and twenty five others put off from the Stella in a small boat. The sea was calm, but there was a big swirl around the rocks. When this boat was a short distance away from the wreck, the boilers of the Stella burst with a terrible explosion and the vessel disap-

peared, stern foremost, in the sea. Captain Stuck to His Ship.

The last thing the survivor saw was the figure of the captain of the Stella standing calmly on the bridge and giving his last instructions. The captain perished with his vessel, owing to the suction caused by the sinking steamer being very great in-

Continuing, the survivor referred to said: "The suction was so tremendous that we thought our boat would be engulfed. I saw five boats and the collapsible boat, besides our boat, leave the wreck. They contained altogether between eighty and one hundred persons. Five of the boats were soon lost to view, but we took a boat filled with women in tow, and the occupants of our boat took the oars in turn and rowed all night long, until most of us dropped asleep,

thoroughly exhausted. "We sighted a sailboat at 6 o'clock in th morning, but the Great Western Railway Company's steamer Lynx, from Weymouth, had meanwhile hove in sight. She bore down on us and took us all on board. She

eventually landed us at Guernsey." Vera Picked Up Forty. The Great Western Railway Company's

steamer Vera, from Southampton, picked up forty others of the survivors and landed them at Guernsey. The disaster coused intense excitement in the Island of Guernsey and here. There were harrowing scenes at the offices of the

London and Southwestern railway at both places. Many families lost one or more relatives. Husbands are inquiring for their wives and wives are asking after their husbands;

parents are seeking news of lost children. and children are making inquiries for miss ing parents. All the flags are half-masted Up to noon today 102 passengers had been

accounted for, including Mr. J. Parton and his wife. Mr. Parton is the manager of the Western London office of the American line. The steamers Honfleur and Vera are

cruising in the vicinity of the wreck.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 31 .-

success as an opera singer, is locked up in a padded cell in the insane ward at the receiving hospital. Her friends, realizing that her mind was failing, concluded to have her taken into custody pending an ex-Man and Wife Burned to Death.

Lily Post, who has achieved considerable

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.-Henry Lappin and his wife, aged forty-five and fortytwo years, respectively, were burned to death late last night in their home on a